

CHROMOSOME NUMBERS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PLANTS: 1

J. J. SPIES AND C. H. STIRTON

(Botanical Research Institute, Private Bag X101, Pretoria, R.S.A.)

VERBENACEAE

Lantana camara L.

Lantana camara L. is a poisonous but decorative alien that has become an aggressive invader of veld and plantations in southern Africa (Stirton, 1979; Wells & Stirton, 1981).

This brief report confirms the suspicion (Stirton, 1977) that this species comprises a polyploid complex in southern Africa.

$2n = 22$

TRANSVAAL—2330 (Tzaneen): near Tzaneen (-CC), *Stirton* 5760, 5784 (PRE).

—2528 (Pretoria): Pretoria North (-CA), *Stirton* 7231 (PRE).

—2531 (Komatipoort): near Witrivier (-AA), *Stirton* 7062, 7066, 7068, 7069, 7071, 7101 (PRE); near Klipkoppies (-AC), *Stirton* 6882, 7288, 7289, 7290, 7292, 7293, 7294, 7295, 7296, 7297, 7298, 7299, 7300, 7301, 7302, 7303, 7304, 7305, 7306, 7307, 7308, 7309, 7310, 7311, 7314, 7315, 7316, 7317, 7328, 7330, 7331, 7332, 7334, 7336, 7338, 7339, 7340, 7342, 7343, 7345, 7361, 7369, 7370, 7371, 7374, 7389, 7390, 7395, 7396, 7397, 7399 (PRE).

$2n = 33$

TRANSVAAL—2330 (Tzaneen): near Tzaneen (-CC), *Stirton* 5759 (PRE).

—2531 (Komatipoort): near Witrivier (-AA), *Stirton* 7067 (PRE); near Klipkoppies (-AC), *Stirton* 6875, 6878, 6883, 7348, 7381, 7382, 7383, 7384, 7387, 7393, 7394, 7398 (PRE); near Nelspruit (-CC), *Stirton* 6837 (PRE).

$2n = 44$

TRANSVAAL—2330 (Tzaneen): near Tzaneen (-CA), *Stirton* 5710 (PRE).

—2428 (Nylstroom): near Nylstroom (-DA), *Stirton* 5704 (PRE).

—2430 (Pilgrim's Rest): near Pilgrim's Rest (-DD), *Stirton* 8723 (PRE).

—2528 (Pretoria): Pretoria North (-CA), *Stirton* 7229, 7230, 7233, 7234, 7236, 7237, 7242, 7252, 7253 (PRE).

—2530 (Lydenburg): near Nelspruit (-BD), *Stirton* 6822 (PRE).

—2531 (Komatipoort): near Witrivier (-AA), *Stirton* 7054, 7055, 7060, 7061,

Accepted for publication 21st August, 1981.

7064, 7065, 7084, 7087, 7089, 7102, 7104, 7351, 7359, 7377, 7378, 7410, 7411, 7412, 7413, 7416, 7426, 7427, 8700 (PRE); near Klipkoppies (-AC), Stirton 6877, 6879, 6881, 7267, 7270, 7312, 7379, 7380, 7385, 7388, 7392, 7408, 7409, 7433, 7434 (PRE); near Kaapmuiden (-CB), Stirton 6782, 6784, 6791 (PRE).

NATAL—2831 (Nkandla): near Eshowe (-CD), Stirton 5288 (PRE); near Eshowe (-DA), Stirton 5280 (PRE).

—2930 (Pietermaritzburg): near Pietermaritzburg (-CD), Stirton 5438 (PRE).

—2931 (Stanger): near Tugela Mouth (-AB), Stirton 5352 (PRE).

—3130 (Port Edward): near Port Edward (-AA), Stirton 5605 (PRE).

CAPE—3418 (Simonstown): near Gordons Bay (-BB), Stirton 5832 (PRE).

—3419 (Caledon): near Betty's Bay (-BD), Stirton 5831 (PRE).

—3422 (Mossel Bay): near Mossel Bay (-AA), Stirton 6324 (PRE).

$2n = 55$

TRANSVAAL—2531 (Komatipoort): near Witrivier (-AA), Stirton 7430, 7432 (PRE).

NATAL—2831 (Nkandla): near Eshowe (-CD), Stirton 5287 (PRE).

$2n = 66$

TRANSVAAL—2531 (Komatipoort): near Witrivier (-AA), Stirton 7058, 7431 (PRE).

REFERENCES

- STIRTON, C. H., 1977. Some thoughts on the polyploid complex *Lantana camara* L. (Verbenaceae). In: Annecke, D. P. (ed.), *Proceedings of the second National Weeds Conference*. Cape Town: Balkema.
- STIRTON, C. H., 1979. Taxonomic problems associated with invasive alien trees and shrubs in South Africa. In: Kunkel, G. (ed.), *Taxonomic aspects of African Economic Botany*. Las Palmas: EXCMO. 218–229.
- WELLS, M. J. and STIRTON, C. H., 1981. Tickberry/Gomdagga—a poisonous proclaimed weed. Fmg. S. Afr., *Beef Cattle series* E.8 1/1981 and *Dairy cattle series* H.5 1/1981.